

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing device comprising:  
storage means for storing data, said storage  
means having a first region and a second region, both of  
5 which are capable of storing data;

connection means for enabling the information  
processing device to be connected to an external device  
that is separate from the information processing device;  
and

10 prevention means for preventing external  
devices connected to the connection means from accessing  
the first region of the storage means.

2. The device of claim 1, further comprising:  
photography means, located in the information  
15 processing device, for photographing an object and  
generating electronic image data of the object; and

processing means, located in the information  
processing device, for processing the electronic image  
data.

20 3. The device of claim 2, wherein the electronic  
image data generated by the photography means is stored  
in the second region of the storage means, and the  
prevention means enables external devices connected to  
the connection means to access the second region of the  
25 storage means.

4. The device of claim 2, wherein the photography  
means includes a lens and a photoelectric converter upon  
which the lens focuses an image of the object so that the  
photoelectric converter generates the electronic image  
30 data, such that the information processing device is an  
electronic camera.

5. The device of claim 1, wherein the prevention  
means enables external devices connected to the  
connection means to access the second region of the  
35 storage means.

6. An information processing device comprising:

a memory having a first storage region and a second storage region;

5 a connector by which the information processing device can be connected to an external device that is separate from the information processing device; and

10 a controller coupled to the connector and to the memory, the controller preventing external devices connected to the connector from accessing the first storage region of the memory.

7. The device of claim 6, wherein the device is an electronic camera, the device further comprising:

15 a lens and a photoelectric converter upon which the lens focuses an image of the object so that the photoelectric converter generates electronic image data, the lens and the photoelectric converter located in a housing of the electronic camera; wherein:

20 the controller is coupled to the photoelectric converter and controls the storage of the electronic image data in the memory.

25 8. The device of claim 7, wherein the controller stores the electronic image data generated by the photoelectric converter in the second region of the memory, and the controller enables external devices connected to the connector to access the second region of the memory.

9. The device of claim 6, wherein the controller enables external devices connected to the connection means to access the second region of the memory.

30 10. A method of controlling an information processing device having a memory that is partitioned into a first storage region and a second storage region, and a connector by which the information processing device can be connected to an external device that is  
35 separate from the information processing device; the method comprising the steps of:

determining whether a request to access the first storage region of the memory is initiated by an external device connected to the connector; and

5 denying access to the first storage region of the memory if the request was initiated by the external device.

10 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the device is an electronic camera having a lens and a photoelectric converter upon which the lens focuses an image of the object so that the photoelectric converter generates electronic image data, the lens and the photoelectric converter located in a housing of the electronic camera; wherein the electronic image data is stored in the memory.

15 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the electronic image data generated by the photoelectric converter is stored in the second region of the memory, and further comprising the step of enabling external devices connected to the connector to access the second region of the memory when an external device connected to the connector requests access to the second storage region of the memory.

20 13. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of enabling external devices connected to the connector to access the second region of the memory when an external device connected to the connector requests access to the second storage region of the memory.

25 14. The method of claim 10, wherein the request to access is a request to write data to the first storage region of the memory.

30 15. The method of claim 10, wherein the request to access is a request to read data from the first storage region of the memory.

35 16. An information processing device comprising:  
photography means, located in the information processing device, for photographing an object and generating electronic image data of the object;

processing means, located in the information processing device, for processing the electronic image data;

5 first connection means for connecting the information processing device to a first external device that supplies power to the information processing device through the first connection means;

10 second connection means for connecting the information processing device to a second external device that supplies power to the information processing device through the second connection means; wherein:

15 when the first connection means is connected to the first external device, the second connection means is prevented from being connected to the second external device, and when the second connection means is connected to the second external device, the first connection means is prevented from being connected to the first external device.

20 17. The device of claim 16, further comprising conversion means for converting the power supplied through the first connection means to a predetermined voltage level and for converting the power supplied through the second connection means to the predetermined voltage level.

25 18. The device of claim 16, wherein the first external device internally houses a battery that supplied a direct current to the first connection means.

30 19. The device of claim 16, wherein the second external device obtains its power from an alternating current source, converts the alternating current to a direct current and supplies the direct current to the second connection means.

35 20. An information processing device comprising:  
photography means, located in the information processing device, for photographing an object and generating electronic image data of the object;

processing means, located in the information processing device, for processing the electronic image data;

5 first connection means for connecting the information processing device to a first external device that supplies power to the information processing device through the first connection means;

10 second connection means for connecting the information processing device to a second external device that supplies power to the information processing device through the second connection means; wherein:

15 means for preventing the second connection means from being connected to the second external device when the first connection means is connected to the first external device, and for preventing the first connection means from being connected to the first external device when the second connection means is connected to the second external device.

21. An information processing device comprising:

20 a lens and a photoelectric converter upon which the lens focuses an image of an object to be photographed so that the photoelectric converter generates electronic image data;

25 a processor located in the information processing device to process the electronic image data;

a first connector by which the information processing device is connectable to a first external device that supplies power to the information processing device through the first connector;

30 a second connector by which the information processing device is connectable to a second external device that supplies power to the information processing device through the second connector; wherein:

35 the first connector and the second connector are arranged relative to each other on a surface of the information processing device such that when the first connector is connected to the first external device, the

second connector is prevented from being connected to the second external device, and when the second connector is connected to the second external device, the first connector is prevented from being connected to the first external device.

5

PUB. NO. 500,550